

Introduction and background: The study was carried out at Kinoni Health centre III in Masaka District among women of reproductive age seeking HIV related services. Disclosure of HIV sero status is an important aspect of HIV prevention and reduction of related mortalities and morbidities. The prevalence of HIV infection is still as high as 33million people worldwide 22,5 million in Africa while in Uganda an estimated number of 940,000 people. Rates of HIV sero status disclosure in developing countries range from 16.7% to 86%.

According to HIV related records between 2003-2006 in Mityaana district Uganda, only 43% of PLWHA had disclosed their status to someone. This shows that the level of disclosure is still low hence a need to carry out this study.

Purpose of the study: The main purpose of the study was to investigate the factors that influence disclosure of HIV sero status among women of reproductive age seeking HIV related services at Kinoni Health centre III.

Methodology: A descriptive cross section study design was used as a study design employing quantitative methods of data collection. The sampling technique was simple random sampling and a sample size of 213 respondents was obtained.

Results: The prevalence of disclosure of HIV sero status among women of reproductive age seeking HIV related services at Kinoni Health Centre III was 68%. Institutional factors: age below 25 years was 42% above 25 was 98% disclosure rate, married disclosed by 90% and unmarried by 10%, level of education tertiary disclose by 93% while University by 100%.

Individual factors include; importance of disclosure by 90%, ART by 81%, fear of shame by 90%, condom use by 92%. Institutional factors include pre test, post, and type of counseling by 96%, 98%, and 93% disclosure rates and privacy by 91% disclosure rate. Socio cultural factors include; community attitudes by 84%, blame on women for spread of HIV by 86%, cultural demand for breast feeding by 84%.

Conclusion and recommendation: The proportion of those who disclosed was 68%; Factors that influence disclosure include age, marital status, level of education, importance of disclosure, ART, fear of shame, condom use, community attitudes, blame on women for spread of HIV, cultural demand for breast feeding, counseling and privacy.

Recommendation includes sensitization, psychological empowerment of women, more research, and more education concerning disclosure.